

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0019] with the following amended paragraph [0019]:

[0019] ~~FIG. 4~~ FIGS. 1a-1d. Pancreatic polyamine pools in syngenic and transgenic rats after zinc and methylspermidine. The animals received zinc (10 mg/kg) 24 h before sacrifice without or with methylspermidine (50 mg/kg) either as single dose 4 h before zinc or as two doses 20 h and 4h before zinc. Three to five animals in each group. Me-sp_d, methylspermidine.

Please replace paragraph [0021] with the following amended paragraph [0021]:

[0021] ~~FIG. 3.~~ FIGS. 3a-3d. Histology of pancreas of transgenic rats after zinc and methylspermidine. The animals were treated as in ~~Fig. 4~~ Figs. 1a-1d. Magnification x 125. Figure 3a shows histology of normal pancreas (no zinc induction). The animals received zinc (10mg/kg) 24 h before sacrifice without (Fig. 3b) or with methylspermidine (50 mg/kg) either as single dose 4 h before zinc (Fig. 3c) or as two doses 20 h and 4 h before zinc (Fig. 3d).

Please replace paragraph [0022] with the following amended paragraph [0022]:

[0022] ~~FIG. 4.~~ FIGS. 4a-4d. Hepatic polyamine pools in syngenic and transgenic rats after partial hepatectomy and methylspermidine. Methylspermadine (50 mg/kg) was given as a single dose 3 h before partial hepatectomy. Three to five animals in each group. Me-sp_d, methylspermidine.

Please replace paragraph [0023] with the following amended paragraph [0023]:

[0023] ~~FIG. 5.~~ FIGS. 5a-5b. Liver weight (~~[[a]]~~ Fig. 5a) and PCNA labeling index (~~[[b]]~~ Fig. 5b) in syngenic and transgenic rats after partial hepatectomy and

methylspermidine. Three to five animals in each group. * $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.001$ as compared with preoperative values. Md-sp_d, methylspermidine.

Please replace paragraph [0026] with the following amended paragraph [0026]:

[0026] ~~FIG. 8.~~ FIGS. 8A-8D. Hepatic polyamine pools in SSAT transgenic rats treated with methylated polyamine analogues without or with MDL72527. The rats were injected twice with MDL72527 (50 mg/kg i.p.) at 16-h interval. The polyamine analogues (25 mg/kg i.p.) were injected 2 and 8 h later. The animals were sacrificed 24 h after the last MDL72527 injection. ~~[[They]]~~ There were three to four animals in each group. Put, putrescine; Ac-Spd, N¹-acetylspermidine; Spd, spermidine; Me-Spd, α -methylspermidine; Me-Spm, α -methylspermine; Bis-Me-Spm, bis- α -methylspermine. * $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.001$ as compared with untreated animals.

Please replace paragraph [0027] with the following amended paragraph [0027]:

[0027] ~~FIG. 9.~~ FIGS. 9A-9B. Effect of polyamine analogues without or with MDL72527 on hepatic SSAT (~~[[A]]~~ Fig. 9A) and PAO (~~[[B]]~~ Fig. 9B) activities in SSAT transgenic rats. The rats were treated with the drugs as described in the legend for ~~Fig. 8~~ Figs. 8A-8D. There were three to four animals in each group. Me-Spd, α -methylspermidine; Me-Spm, α -methylspermine; Bis-Me-Spm, bis- α -methylspermine. * $p < 0.05$, *** $p < 0.001$ as compared with untreated animals.